

# Councilmember Kansen Chu

VOLUME III/ISSUE 3

APRIL/MAY 2010



BUSD's Superintendent Marc Liebman is honored by Councilmember Chu as BCAC's Citizen of the Year.



Northwood Elementary's Adopt-A-Park team volunteers at this year's Great American Litter Pick-Up event.



Mayor Reed and Councilmember Chu with Berryessa Chinese School, this year's District 4 Honoree.

## Door-to-Door in District 4 Newsletter

Office of Councilmember Kansen Chu  
A MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMEMBER CHU

Dear District 4 Neighbors,

I want to take this time to wish everyone a Happy Earth Day! This year marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day and will be celebrated on Thursday, April 22, 2010. This is a day to celebrate the environment and I am encouraging all of you to find ways for you and your family to do your part in protecting the environment. Small changes in your daily routine can add up to big changes in helping to stop global warming and protecting our earth. A few simple things we can all do to pitch in include: switching your light bulbs to highly efficient compact fluorescent bulbs, using less heat and air conditioning, driving less, buying energy-efficient products, and saving electricity by turning off the lights when you leave a room.

In honor of Earth Day, I invite all of you to stop by the District 4 Booth at the Berryessa Farmers Market on Saturday, April 24, 2010 to pick up a FREE reusable green bag and other important resources. The Berryessa Farmers Market runs every Saturday, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Berryessa Union School District Office Parking Lot, located at 1376 Piedmont Road. I look forward to seeing you there!

Best Regards,



### IN THIS ISSUE:

- Upcoming Events
- Budget Update
- District 4 Updates
- Berryessa Art & Wine Festival
- Save Our Sports Program

### Sign up for regular email updates from District 4

Email [district4@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district4@sanjoseca.gov) so you can be added to the email list.

Kansen's Blog: [www.kansenchu.com/blog](http://www.kansenchu.com/blog)

District 4 Website: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district4>

### DISTRICT 4 OFFICE

200 East Santa Clara Street

San Jose, CA 95113

Telephone: (408) 535-4904

Fax: (408) 292-6459

Email: [District4@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:District4@sanjoseca.gov)



## COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS

### WEDNESDAY

**APRIL 21**

Berryessa Branch Library  
Community Room  
6:30PM-8:00PM

Councilmember Kansen Chu invites you to attend Community Office Hours in order to get feedback and provide assistance to residents. Staff will also be on hand to assist in handling questions and concerns from residents. If you wish to make an appointment to meet with Council member Chu on any of the listed dates, please call the office at (408) 535-4904.

### WEDNESDAY

**MAY 19**

Berryessa Branch Library  
Study Room C  
6:00PM-8:00PM

*Dates & locations subject to change. Please check the District 4 website for confirmed time and locations.*

## SAN JOSE BUDGET UPDATE - DEFECIT REACHES \$116.2 MILLION



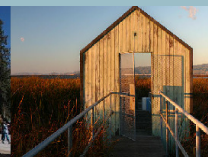
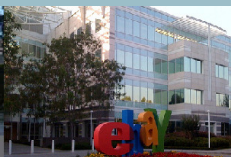
As the City begins discussions regarding next year's budget, I want to keep our residents up-to-date on what the City is doing and encourage District 4 residents participate in the FY 2010-2011 budget process.

The City of San José continues to face significant fiscal challenges. After eight straight years of budget reductions, there are no easy solutions left. A few months ago, the City forecasted that we need to make up a \$100 million shortfall for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2010. Unfortunately, the Budget Office has recently informed the City Manager and City Council that the deficit has grown to \$116.2 million.

While many other cities have already been forced to make significant reductions in the services they provide, the City of San José has historically been able to soften these community impacts through the strategic use of reserves, strong fiscal policies, and a long tradition as a well-managed City.

With a deficit as large as the one we currently face, the range of budget reduction and elimination proposals will unfortunately be broader than those we've seen in the past. Every department is looking at significant cost reductions that will likely have a noticeable impact. The City Manager released early preliminary budget reductions proposals on March 29, 2010 to help prepare the City organization and community. These draft proposals provide early information on what will likely be brought forward in the 2010-2011 Proposed Operating Budget that is scheduled to be released on May 3, 2010. Please visit the District 4 website ([www.sanjoeca.gov/district4](http://www.sanjoeca.gov/district4)) for more budget updates. See page 5 for more information regarding some of the proposed service reductions.

Unfortunately, there are hurdles to success in these areas. Any new revenues in the form of taxes must be approved by voters, who may not be supportive. The City of San José has 11 bargaining units, representing approximately 6,358 City employees. The City is in negotiations with almost all of the unions with a goal of reducing personnel costs to help lessen service level reductions and City employee layoffs. (cont. page 5)







## Neighborhood Groups

### Alviso Neighborhood Group

Meets every 1st Wednesday of the Month at 6PM at Alviso Library  
Contact: Betty Brown  
betty@maileater.net

### Alviso Water Taskforce

Meets every 2nd Tuesday of the Month at 6PM at the Alviso Community Center  
www.alvisowater.org  
Contact: alvisowater@gmail.com

### Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council

Meets every 2nd Monday of the Month at 7PM at the Berryessa Community Center  
Contact: Mike Flaughter  
mikeflaughter@yahoo.com

### North Valley Community Association

Meets every 3rd Monday of every other month at 7PM Location TBA  
Contact: Chris Zhou  
czhou911@yahoo.com  
To Subscribe to the Listserve, Please send an email to: NorthValleyCA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

### Piedmont Hostetter Neighborhood Association

Meets quarterly at 6:30PM at the Berryessa Union School District Board Room  
Contact: Cheryl VanZuylen  
Cheryl\_vanzuylen@yahoo.com

### River Oaks Neighborhood Association

Meets every odd month  
Location TBA  
Contact: Jean Marlowe  
jean@jeanmarlowe.com

### Townsend Park Neighborhood Association

Meets twice yearly  
Location TBA  
Contact: Lori Wallace  
lori\_wp@yahoo.com

## NORTH SAN JOSE BUSINESS APPRECIATION



Joining forces with the Redevelopment Agency, I hosted a North San José Business Appreciation Event on March 4, 2010. This event targeted companies that were located south of Plumeria and north of Highway 101.

Companies in this area were targeted to inform them of the tax benefits provided by the newly expanded Enterprise Zone. This event was a good opportunity to reach out to companies in North San José.

The event was very well attended with 87 business representatives. The Redevelopment Agency and I were able to obtain over \$7,000 in donations for the event from Club Auto Sport, North San José property owners and the Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce.



As the center of tech innovation, North San José is being planned for the creation of 26.7 million square feet of industrial space and 83,000 new research and development jobs. I would like to thank these companies for calling North San José their home.





## 35TH BERRYESSA ART & WINE FESTIVAL

Spend the day being part of the effort to keep music programs in local schools! The 35th Annual Berryessa Art & Wine Festival is a day for the entire family. With a stage filled with elementary to high school student musicians, a Kids Fun Zone, nearly 100 artist booths, and delicious foods, San Jose's largest and oldest community festival is the place to be!

Be sure to visit my booth at the Berryessa Art & Wine Festival for a free reusable bag!

## BERRYESSA ART & WINE FESTIVAL

Saturday, May 8, 2010

10:00AM-5:00PM

Penitencia Creek Park

## DISTRICT 4 COMMUNITY MEETING ON NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY

Councilmember Chu along with Supervisor Dave Cortese and District 4 Neighborhood Associations hosted a Neighborhood Safety Meeting on Monday, March 29, 2010 at the Berryessa Branch Library.

Due to rising concern over the safety of residents in District 4, Councilmember Chu and District 4 Neighborhood Associations organized this Neighborhood Safety Meeting to address the current situation and inform residents about what is going on in our neighborhoods and how to keep our community safe.

Representatives from the San José Police Department, Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force, Crime Prevention, and Code Enforcement were present to address neighborhood safety concerns. Santa Clara County District Attorney Dolores Carr and Sheriff Laurie Smith were also present.

Over 50 concerned residents attended the meeting and received crucial information on maintaining neighborhood safety. If you would like to review the synopsis, please visit: [http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district4/docs/03.29.10\\_Synopsis.pdf](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district4/docs/03.29.10_Synopsis.pdf)



Independence High School Cavalry Band performs at last year's Berryessa Art & Wine Festival.



Councilmember Chu and his wife Daisy with Interact students at last year's Berryessa Art & Wine Festival.

## DO YOU RECEIVE WEEKLY EMAILS FROM COUNCILMEMBER CHU?

Sign-up at  
[www.sanjoseca.gov/district4](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district4)



Alviso Marina



Abandoned boats in Alviso





## THE BUDGET AND DISTRICT 4

### LIBRARY BUDGET IMPACTS TO DISTRICT 4

Currently, the branch libraries are open 47 hours per week (Monday through Saturday). As approved in the 2009-2010 Adopted Budget, effective July 1, 2010, the hours will be reduced to 39 hours per week. An additional reduction to 25-26 hours per week (3 days) is proposed for Fiscal Year 2010-2011.

Library services would also be reduced, including story-time, children's educational programs, literacy programs, adult programming, Summer Reading Celebration, and class visits. Additionally, Homework Center Programming would be eliminated.

I am extremely concerned about the potential impacts to library hours. On March 23, 2010, I recommended the City Council include libraries as part of our recommendation of community priorities. I believe libraries play a critical role in our neighborhoods and serve as a hub for our communities. Given the increase in unemployment rates and the proximity of our library to neighborhood schools, I am advocating that we should try to keep as many hours as we can, especially, as attendance has increased at many of our branches.

### COMMUNITY CENTER BUDGET IMPACTS

The Department of Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services is currently looking to change the Service Delivery Model for community centers, which would significantly reduce the facilities and services available. The primary components of this proposal include reducing the number of community centers directly operated by closing 21 satellite and neighborhood community centers and placing them in the re-use program in addition to phasing out the senior nutrition program. Affected centers in District 4 include the Alviso Youth Center and Berryessa Youth Center.

At this time, City staff continues to explore alternative service delivery strategies to find a way to preserve as many of our neighborhood services as possible. I want you to keep in mind that these are still only proposals and discussions still need to take place between the City Council and the community as we continue through the budget process. The feedback you provide me and my colleagues on the City Council is extremely crucial during these difficult times.

### BUDGET UPDATE (continued)

Unfortunately, there are hurdles to success in these areas. Any new revenues in the form of taxes must be approved by voters, who may not be supportive. The City of San José has 11 bargaining units, representing approximately 6,358 City employees. The City is in negotiations with almost all of the unions with a goal of reducing personnel costs to help lessen service level reductions and layoffs of City employees.

If new revenues or employee concessions are not achieved, it will mean more significant service reductions and lay-offs. The proposals to be considered at this time include significant reductions and include changes to fire stations operations, reducing police staffing, shutting community centers, and cutting branch library hours.

All of these proposals will be the subject of much public debate. The City of San José uses a community-based budgeting process to help ensure that our decisions reflect the values and priorities of our community. Throughout the next few months, budget conversations will be happening in many different forums as the City Council, community members, and other stakeholders debate proposals.

If you would like to share ideas about ways the city can save money or generate revenue, please email me at [district4@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district4@sanjoseca.gov).



## City & Community Contacts

**City Hall Call Center**

**(408) 535-3500**

**Abandoned Vehicles**

**(408) 277-5305**

**Alviso Branch Library**

**(408) 263-3626**

**Alviso Youth Center**

**(408) 586-7624**

**Anti-Graffiti & Litter**

**(408) 277-2758**

**Berryessa Branch Library**

**(408) 808-3050**

**Berryessa Community &**

**Senior Center**

**(408) 251-6392**

**Berryessa Youth Center**

**(408) 262-1014**

**Code Enforcement**

**(408) 277-4528**

**Crime Prevention**

**(408) 277-4133**

**Garbage & Recycling**

**(408) 535-3515**

**Parks & Recreation**

**(408) 535-3570**

**Sidewalk Repair**

**(408) 277-3158**

**Street Lights**

**(408) 277-5517**

**Street Sweeping**

**(408) 277-2571**

**Tree Trimming & Removal**

**(408) 277-2756**

## Meet Your District 4 Team

### Stephanie Fong, District Director

[stephanie.fong@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:stephanie.fong@sanjoseca.gov)

#### FOCUS AREAS

Berryessa Neighborhood, Redevelopment, Parks & Recreation, Budget, Personnel, Youth, Internship Coordination, Web Content, & Constituent Services.

#### COMMITTEES

Neighborhood Services & Education; Public Safety, Finance & Strategic Support.



### Margie Espinoza, Executive Assistant

[margie.espinoza@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:margie.espinoza@sanjoseca.gov)

#### FOCUS AREAS

Councilmember Scheduling, Office Administration, Constituent Services, and Event Planning.

### Kathy Duong, Policy Analyst

[kathy.duong@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:kathy.duong@sanjoseca.gov)

#### FOCUS AREAS

North Valley Neighborhood, North San José Neighborhood, Land Use, Environment, Public Safety, Housing, Economic Development, Web Content, Vietnamese Media Relations and Constituent Services.

#### COMMITTEES

Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Support; Transportation & Environment



## UPCOMING DISTRICT 4 COMMUNITY BUDGET MEETINGS

**WED, APRIL 14, 2010  
ALVISO BRANCH LIBRARY**

Community Room  
5:30PM-7:00PM  
5050 North First Street

**THURS, APRIL 15, 2010  
BERRYESSA LIBRARY**

Community Room  
6:30PM-8:30PM  
3355 Noble Avenue



Councilmember Chu and County District Attorney Dolores Carr speak at the District 4 Neighborhood Safety Meeting.



## DISTRICT 4 EVENTS

For up-to-date event information, visit  
[sanjoseca.gov/district4](http://sanjoseca.gov/district4) and email  
[district4@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district4@sanjoseca.gov) to receive e-Notices.

### US CENSUS FORM SUBMITTAL DEADLINE

Be Counted!



## APRIL

**3** **ALVISO EASTER  
EGG HUNT**  
12:00PM-2:00PM  
Alviso Youth Center  
5040 North First Street



**3** **BERRYESSA EASTER  
EGG HUNT**  
10:00AM-12:00PM  
Berryessa Community Center  
3050 Berryessa Road

**14** **2010 COMMUNITY  
BUDGET HEARING**  
5:30PM-7:00PM  
Alviso Branch Library  
5050 North First Street

**15** **2010 COMMUNITY  
BUDGET HEARING**  
6:30PM-8:30PM  
Berryessa Branch Library  
3355 Noble Avenue

**22** **EARTH DAY**  
Celebrate Earth Day  
by volunteering to  
beautify your  
neighborhood



**24** **FARMER'S MARKET**  
Occurs Every Saturday  
9:00AM-12:00PM  
Berryessa Union School  
District Parking Lot  
1376 Piedmont Road

**25** **EAST SIDE UNION HIGH  
SCHOOL DISTRICT'S  
SAVE OUR SPORTS 5K RUN**  
7:30AM-8:30AM Registration  
9:00AM 5km Run/Walk Starts  
Mt. Pleasant High School  
1750 South White Road

**8** **35th BERRYESSA ART AND  
WINE FESTIVAL**  
San José's Largest and Oldest!  
10:00AM-5:00PM  
Penitencia Creek Park  
3050 Berryessa Road



## MAY

**19** **COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS**  
Berryessa Branch Library  
Study Room C  
6:00PM-8:00PM  
3355 Noble Avenue  
*Please call (408) 535-4904 to  
schedule a 15 minute appointment*

**22** **TRANSIT-ORIENTED  
HOUSING TOUR**  
Sponsored by Silicon Valley  
Leadership group  
Time TBA

**31** **MEMORIAL DAY  
HOLIDAY**  
City Hall Closed



Councilmember Chu with volunteers at the USO Open House event.



Councilmember Chu and wife Daisy at the Vietnamese Tet Festival.



Councilmembers Chu with volunteers at Alviso's Great American Litter Pick-Up.

**Event dates are subject to change. Please contact the District 4 office at (408) 535-4904 to confirm events.**



# VOLUNTEER IN DISTRICT 4!



## Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley

The Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley strives to provide high quality care and rehabilitation for injured, sick, and orphaned wildlife within the Silicon Valley Community. Volunteer to assist our wildlife!

**(408) 929-9453 • [www.wcsv.org](http://www.wcsv.org)**

## Adopt A Park Program

Adopt a Park Program strives to protect and enhance San José's neighborhood parks and open spaces by volunteer support, and at the same time dedicated to educating San José residents about the importance of parks. Adopt a Park today!



**(408) 793-4190 • [www.sjadoptapark.org](http://www.sjadoptapark.org)**

**Celebrating 25 Years**

## Santa Visits Alviso



Santa Visits Alviso has been serving the Alviso Community since 1983 and is dedicated to bringing gifts & the Spirit of the Holidays to hundreds of toddlers and teens every year. Santa Visits Alviso is an all volunteer organization & is active year long.

**[rpsantos@scvwd.dst.ca.us](mailto:rpsantos@scvwd.dst.ca.us) • [www.alvisosanta.com](http://www.alvisosanta.com)**



## Friends of the Library Program

District 4 is proud to have two libraries to serve our community. Call today for volunteer opportunities!

**Friends of Alviso Library • (408) 263-3626**

**Friends of Berryessa Library • (408) 808-2181**



## Office of Councilmember Kansen Chu

Council District 4, 18th Floor  
200 East Santa Clara Street  
San Jose, California 95113

Tel: 408-535-4904

Fax: 408-292-6459

E-mail: [district4@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district4@sanjoseca.gov)

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Visit Kansen's Blog:  
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